

Memorandum

TO: Michigan Senate Energy & Technology Committee Members

FROM: Terri Reid, President

RE: Support Retail Net Metering

We are writing to express our strong support for retail net metering. We believe that retail net metering represents fair and equitable public policy for energy development in the State of Michigan and represents the ideals of a free and competitive marketplace.

Maintaining and furthering retail net metering creates strong economic and public benefits for ratepayers in Michigan. Retail net metering gives Michiganders the choice in how their own electricity is produced and control over their electricity bills. In addition, retail net metering supports distributed generation and will help to bring energy security and reliability to Michiganders. Net metering can be an economic boon to the state and will help induce economic growth and activity.

Retail net metering benefits even those that do not engage in the process. Recent, independent studies shows that retail net metering and distributed energy are a financial benefit to all ratepayers and the grid. For example, the Nevada Public Service Commission found that net-metered rooftop solar delivered a financial benefit to all consumers. The study found that rooftop solar provides \$36 million in benefits to all ratepayers. As a result, net metering can put a downward pressure on everyone's electricity rates.

Again, we strongly urge you to protect current net metering rules already in place and consider strengthening them to help Michigan's energy landscape advance further into the 21st century and protect the free market.